

Go to Graduate School or Go to Work: What Factors Determining College Students' Selections?

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ABSTRACT This paper analyzes the factors that determine whether a graduate finds a job or entering graduate school. An econometrical model is used to detect multi-objectives, covering college graduates' employment, unemployment and graduate study affected by three factors: college prestige, undergraduate discipline, and gender. This paper indicates that the research university graduates find jobs faster and are more likely to study in graduate school, and the substitution effect exists between going to graduate school and going to work. In addition, graduates with engineering and business degrees find jobs more easily and the lower probabilities to go to graduate school. Agricultural graduates have the higher probabilities to go to graduate school, but the lower probabilities to work. There is a complementary impact between going to graduate school and working. Other discipline shows the weak substitution and complementary effects. Finally, female graduates find jobs more easily than males, and they are more likely to go to graduate school. A substitution effect exists between their selections.